



HENSHAW AND HEDSTROM.
As they will ride to-night on their fast two-wheeled motor cycle, capable of going forty-two miles in an hour.

EVENING WORLD'S BIG RACE OPENS NEW CENTURY



CHARLEY WHITE.
Who will time contestants in big race on their arrival at Pulitzer Building.

CITY HALL ABLAZE TO GREET NEW YEAR.

Roar of Bombs and Guns, and Lines of Electric Lights to Turn the Old Building into a Fairy-land Palace.

PROGRAMME FOR CITY HALL FETE.

1. Overture by Sousa's Band.
2. Inauguration address by Randolph Huggins, President of the Council.
3. Song, "The Star Spangled Banner," by the United German Singing Societies.
4. Overture by the Band.
5. Song, "America," by the People's Choral Union.
6. Overture.
7. Song, "The Star Spangled Banner," by the People's Choral Union.
8. Overture.
9. Song, "Ring Out Wild Bells," by the People's Choral Union.
10. Overture.
11. Song, "Hallelujah Chorus," by the People's Choral Union.
12. Overture.
13. Song, "The Star Spangled Banner," by the People's Choral Union.
14. Overture.
15. Song, "The Star Spangled Banner," by the People's Choral Union.
16. Overture.
17. Song, "The Star Spangled Banner," by the People's Choral Union.
18. Overture.
19. Song, "The Star Spangled Banner," by the People's Choral Union.
20. Overture.
21. Song, "The Star Spangled Banner," by the People's Choral Union.
22. Overture.
23. Song, "The Star Spangled Banner," by the People's Choral Union.

WILL BE COLD NEW YEAR'S DAY.

Twentieth Century to Be Ushered in by Snappy Weather.

It may be a happy New Year's Day, but the new century will probably not dawn bright and sunny, according to the Weather Bureau prophets.

When the bells are ringing a merry jangle of welcome to the New Year old Boreas will blow a whistling cold blast as a dirge for the nineteenth century.

Those who are going out tonight to attend watch meetings would do well to wear heavy coats and wraps and carry umbrellas, for a snow or rainstorm followed by a big drop in temperature is predicted. This will be followed by cloudy or clearing weather.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Forecast for the thirty-six hours ending at 8 P. M. Tuesday—For New York City and vicinity: Rain or snow and colder to-night; Tuesday partly cloudy and much colder; winds becoming fresh to brisk northwest.

WOMAN TAKEN ILL ON TRAIN DIED IN RAILROAD STATION

A woman about sixty-five years of age died in the Long Island City railroad station this afternoon. She had been taken sick on the 1:35 train from Washington, D. C.

She was dressed in black and wore a wedding ring. The police found in her pocket a card of the New York Fairway at 321 East Fifteenth street, bearing the name "Annie Smith." The police believe the woman lived at Winfield. She had an expression ticket from that place.

POLICE BOARD FAILED TO MEET

It was widely expected there would be a meeting of the Police Board this afternoon, but President York left Headquarters at 3:30 o'clock, saying he had an engagement. The other commissioners did not appear. A number of roundmen who were present and expected to be promoted were disappointed.

NEW ORLEANS WINNERS.

FIFTH RACE—Ed Garland 1, Horace Lee 2, Herbert 3.
SIXTH RACE—Gladious 1, Quile Right 2, Edwate 3.

One Thousand to Start in Great Scramble from Harlem to Pulitzer Building.

All persons who have entered in The Evening World's Dawn-of-the-Century Race must observe the city ordinance regulating the speed of vehicles, as any violation of these regulations will be at their own risk.

Nearly one thousand persons will make pace for Father Time to-night as he turns into the stretch of his 2,000th lap on the track of ages. They will set a swifter gait for the old man than his vigorous, untiring sinews ever knew before, and will lead him a dance for a brief hour or so, at least, that he will long remember.

The century that closes with the midnight chimes is an era of speed and progress, and all that it represents in these qualities will be illustrated in the Dawn-of-the-Century race for the Evening World trophies.

Harlem Brought Nearest.
"To Harlem in fifteen minutes!" has long been our plaint. From Harlem to Park now in that time or pretty nearly so will be something that can go down in history's annals after the race is over.

When Starter Al Smith calls his first set of vehicle contestants to the scratch in the race against time to-night it is sure to be a sight well worth witnessing. Hundreds of various inventions to his one hither and thither will be there. Maybe there are not that many, but whatever this century has produced will be there on the line, awaiting the gun for the start.

Automobiles in all forms and phases, bicycles of all gears, motor cycles in many different chargings, locomotives steamed as best they can afford to be and cable cars with fastest loops working will all be on that line.

The bicycle has been tested for its best qualities without and with pace, but the auto has had little show in races that might be classed as sprint affairs. The manufacturers have longed for the opportunity to show its qualities, and this occasion has been grabbed without hesitation by them. Will they beat the whirling wheels of the cycle or will they distance the motor-propelled two-wheeler?

Autos Out to Win.
That alone can be answered when the race has been finished. But if the machines are behind at the finish it will not be because the operators were nerve-lacking. Every automobile has a hander that will not stop if a stone wall should arise from the ground over which it is travelling. Once the lever has been switched forward it will be one continuous trip to The World's Uptown Office, and from there to the Pulitzer Building.

Take Jim Corbett, for instance. Did he ever man live with greater nerve? His new machine has a travelling velocity of thirty miles an hour. As it will sweep by it will surely appear to the onlookers like a phantom.

But as fast as the ex-champion scrapper of the world might be tonight, he's not going to have a clear course. There are other autos with just as fast-flying record or ability. There is a little girl from Harlem who possesses about the same amount of nerve as Mr. Corbett when it comes to running a wagon.

Girls in the Race.
She is Miss Eva Mudge, and if she doesn't beat him tonight, she's not going to be far off. In her own wagon she can travel a rapid clip—so fast, in fact, that many times she has kept abreast of William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., "White Ghost," and that's going pretty fast. In the auto line she'll be the only

New York City will lead the country in giving the twentieth century a welcome that will make the old century sorry to depart.

The Official Welcome.
The official welcome of the city will be given at the City Hall.

The work of transforming the City Hall Park into a fairy land of bunting and electric lights started yesterday and went on to-day.

Electric bulbs to the number of 4,500 were strung in and around the park and City Hall. These, with streamers of electric lights and a huge electric light legend, "Welcome, Twentieth Century," will make the place as bright as day. This legend will blaze on the front of the City Hall.

A chorus of 1,000 voices from the People's Choral Union, under Frank Darnoch, with the United German Singing

WOMAN KEPT VOW TO KILL.

Mrs. Ertell Slays Man for Whom She Left Husband, as She Promised.

George Deges, keeper of an oyster house at 161 Washington street, Brooklyn, was found dead in his room with a bullet through his heart. Mrs. Maggie Ertell, his companion, who some time ago threw carbolic acid in his face, was missing. The room showed that there had been a terrific struggle.

Mrs. Ertell was intensely jealous of Deges's attentions to other women. The woman lived at 132 Gates avenue with her husband until they separated. She then made her home with Deges, who had the reputation of being a "sport." He was thirty-five years old; she twenty-nine.

They came into the oyster house at 6 o'clock this morning. Deges told Peter Paulus, one of the waiters, to wake him at 6 o'clock. Then he and Mrs. Ertell went to his room upstairs.

Bullet in His Heart.
The waiter said he went to the room at 9 o'clock but received no response to his knocking. Deges lay on the floor dead. The revolver lay beside him. The furnishings of the room were upset, showing that a fierce struggle had taken place.

Besides the shot that pierced Deges's heart one struck behind the left ear, the third grazed his arm, the fourth missed and set fire to the bed.

The police at once sent out a general alarm for Mrs. Ertell.

Paulus made the following statement: "Deges and the woman came in about 6 o'clock this morning and were quarrelling. The woman said: 'I'll get square with you. You wait!'"

"They quarrelled down after this and in a few minutes appeared to be on good terms."

BOERS CAPTURE A BRITISH GUN.

Used Prisoners as Shield and Escaped in Triumph.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—As was expected by those who have been watching the course of the Transvaal war the victory won by the Boers at Helvetia was greater than first admitted by the War Office.

It now appears that the attack was one of splendid daring and consummate skill. The Boers rushed a 4.7-inch gun, captured it, had to abandon it, then formed a cordon of British prisoners around it, which stopped the British fire and walked off with the weapon in triumph.

Lord Kitchener thus describes this latest piece of work in a despatch from Pretoria:

"The post at Helvetia was surprised at 2:30 A. M. the enemy first rushing at 4:30. At dawn the officer commanding the post at Swartkops sent out a patrol and shelled the enemy out of Helvetia, making them abandon the gun temporarily."

"The Boers, however, formed our prisoners around the gun and got it away eventually. No ammunition belonging to the gun was captured. The casualties were four officers wounded, eleven men killed and twenty-two wounded."

A column was sent out from Machodopol, but owing to bad roads it failed to arrive in time."

HIRAM MAXIM A KNIGHT.

American Inventor in the List of British New Year Honors.
LONDON, Dec. 31.—The New Year's honor-list includes the names of Hiram S. Maxim, who was born in Maine, and who is the inventor of the automatic system of firearms. He is knighted.

Sir Alfred Milner, the Administrator of South Africa, is made a Knight Grand Cross of the Bath. Col. Kitson, formerly commanding at Kingston College, and Lieut.-Col. Irwin, Secretary of the Canadian Patriotic Fund, are made Companions of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, and Sir Samuel Griffith is made a Privy Councillor.

"EL MOCHA" TO REVOLT.

Venezuela is again on the brink of an insurrection.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Disquieting reports as to conditions in Venezuela are coming to Washington. Hernandez, the dreaded "El Mocha," has regained his liberty, and there are expectations of a rebellious outbreak.

Minister Lopetegui's latest report, while dealing principally with the rival asphalt concessions in Venezuela, also tends to show the existence of a feeling of unrest in the country.

WALKER DEAD WITH STRANGE WOMAN.



Young Man Sunday-School Worker at Jamaica—His Mother Prostrated.

The body of the young man found beside the dead body of a woman in a room of the Hotel Vesta, Brooklyn, this morning was identified this afternoon as that of John K. Walker, twenty-three years old, of 41 McCauley place, Jamaica.

The woman who was with him has not been identified.

Walker was the son of Jacob McKenzie Walker, the wealthiest builder of Jamaica and an officer of Dr. Ladd's Baptist Church of that place. The young man was prominent in the Sunday-school work of the church and bore an excellent reputation. He was the eldest of seven children, four sisters and two brothers, and was his father's chief assistant in his business.

When his mother was informed by a reporter of The Evening World of her son's death under such circumstances, she became hysterical from grief.

"I cannot believe it," she sobbed. "He was such a good boy. I cannot understand how he could have been lured to such a place."

"He never drank liquor in his life, and I am sure he did not touch the whiskey found in the room."

"It is terrible, terrible! He was my

HEADS DROP TO PHILBIN'S AXE.

Assistants Unger, Hennessey, O'Reilly and McCann Out.

District Attorney Philbin removed today and made three appointments. The dismissals were Henry Unger, Daniel O'Reilly, Forbes Hennessey and Charles E. F. McCann.

Franklin Pierce and George W. Schurman were appointments at a salary of \$150 each, and Howard A. Dana at \$200. Mr. Philbin was at his desk at 9:30 and sent for Assistant District Attorney James W. Osborne, of Molloy's trial fame. Mr. Osborne had not arrived. Then Deputy Gerald Hold Gray was summoned. He too was tardy.

It was thought that the summons meant resignations for both, but it was only to receive word that they would be retained, as they learned later.

Deputy Assistant Daniel J. O'Reilly was on hand when he was summoned. He spent only two minutes in Mr. Philbin's office and emerged to say that his resignation had been requested, proffered and accepted. Mr. O'Reilly has had charge of prosecutions in Special Sessions and he owed \$4,000 a year salary to the favor of Senator Tim Sullivan.

Forbes J. Hennessey's head next rolled in the basket. Mr. Hennessey has assisted Mr. McIntyre in the preparation of murder cases. He is a nephew of ex-United States Senator Ed Murphy, and had been in the office since the incumbency of Col. John R. Fellows.

Henry W. Unger, in charge of the indictment bureau and drawing a salary of \$150, voluntarily tendered his resignation to Mr. Philbin. He will build up a private law practice. Mr. Unger had been in the District Attorney's office since 1885, when he was appointed by the late Randolph C. Martine. He held over under Col. Fellows, De Lancy, Nicol, W. M. K. O'Leary and Col. Gardner. He was one of the two men retained by Col. O'Leary when he took charge of the office.

To fill the vacancies caused by the retirement of Messrs. McIntyre and Unger Mr. Philbin announced the appointment of ex-Franklin Pierce, of 21 Nassau street, and George W. Schurman, of the law firm of Carter, Hughes & Dwight, of 96 Broadway. It was said to be an expert in the preparation of briefs. Mr. Schurman was named to succeed Mr. Hennessey at a salary of \$1,000.

Mr. Philbin announced in addition to Messrs. Osborne and Gray he would retain Deputy Raymond O'Connor and Deputy Thomas J. Byrne, who has been promoted to the head of the indictment bureau. He added his thanks to Mr. McCann for proffering to remain in the office until the cases he had in hand were disposed of without extra compensation.

The Century's Progress
is exemplified in the equipment of the Pan-American Limited. Leave New York daily for Chicago, Cincinnati and St. Louis.

Mr. Alfred Harmsworth to The World's Readers.

TO THE READERS OF THE NEW YORK WORLD:

I HAVE come to the United States to exchange ideas of journalism, to learn and to suggest. The editor of the New York World has given me complete control of his magnificent organization for twenty-four hours, and though the time is but brief, and I only reached this country on Thursday last, I shall appeal to-morrow to the fair play and intellectual discrimination for which Americans are noted, the world over. I feel confident that my system of portable, pocketable, logically arranged journalism will meet with careful consideration, and that from the invitation I shall make to-morrow to the American people to offer suggestions as to what is wanted in the newspapers of the Twentieth Century I shall receive valuable advice.

ALFRED HARMSWORTH.

DEVERY RESIGNATION TALK.

Story that Chief Devery Could not be Retired to Private Life on a Pension by the Police Board because of old charges pending against him was talked about to-day at Headquarters.

Both President York and other officials laughed at the idea. The case pending against Devery is the charge that he received \$100 from Builder Helgert when in charge of the Old Slip station.

It was pointed out at Police Headquarters that if that was the only obstacle to removing Devery it could easily be moved out of the way by simply dismissing the charges.

GAS EXPLOSION IN A MINE.

Two Men Seriously Injured, but Rest of 500 Escaped Safely.
WILKESBARRE, Pa., Dec. 31.—An explosion of gas occurred in the Hollenback Mine of the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Coal Company to-day.

Five hundred men were at work at the time, but all succeeded in getting out safely except two, who were badly burned. They are Ignatz Cravy, miner, burned internally and dying, and a laborer, name not given.

WEATHER FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY.

Colder, with fair weather in southern and probably snow in northern portions of New York; fresh, westerly winds.

MRS. VAN BUREN IS DYING.

(Special to The Evening World.)
ENGLEWOOD, N. J., Dec. 31.—Mrs. Van Buren, widow of Gen. Van Buren, and a sister-in-law of the late William Walter Phelps, is dying at the Phelps mansion at Tea Neck.

Her daughter, the Countess De Castellarnaud, and husband are with Mrs. Van Buren.

A W. C. T. U. WOMAN'S FIX.

WICHITA, Kan., Dec. 31.—The County Jail has been quarantined on account of small-pox within, and Mrs. Carrie Nation of the W. C. T. U., who raided a hotel barroom, breaking pictures and mirrors, having failed to give bond, must stay there twenty-one days.